## Dry Lake SEZ SRMP Workshop 4, Feb 27, 2013 Questions for Stakeholders

## **BLM's Draft Options for Costing**

- 1. What are your thoughts on using a mitigation fee setting formula(s) based on restoration cost, ecological intactness, and conservation value?
- 2. Keeping in mind BLM wants to incentivize development in SEZs, is this an appropriate alternative to the conventional ratio-based habitat replacement approach? To conventional property valuation approach?
- 3. Using the proposed mitigation fee setting formula, what are appropriate thresholds/criteria for defining categories for: landscape condition? conservation values?
- 4. In the proposed mitigation fee setting formula, are the SEZ-specific and non-SEZ specific multiplier values/discount factors appropriate?
- 5. Should BLM subtract other required mitigation fees (e.g., county fees, tortoise mitigation fees) from the calculated fee? Inside of SEZs? In variance areas?
- 6. How can this formula be adapted to address other resource concerns (e.g., recreation, socioeconomic, grazing, cultural, visual)?
- 7. What is the threshold above which SEZ mitigation fees create a disincentive (e.g., when cost of developing on SEZ is more than on private lands)?

## **BLM Draft Options for Solar Mitigation Objectives and Priority Setting**

- 1. Are there situations in which it is inappropriate to use an integrated mitigation goal versus a single-resource (stovepipe) mitigation goal?
- 2. Is mitigation for ecosystem intactness appropriate?
- 3. Setting aside legally-required mitigation, when is mitigation of a single resource necessary/appropriate/critical?

- 4. How do stakeholders view sequence of mitigation fee setting and candidate site selection? Which comes first and why?
- 5. Knowing that different mitigation action types (e.g., preservation, restoration, acquisition) imply different timelines, what criteria should the BLM consider in making its selection?
- 6. What information is needed for stakeholders to be able to provide candidate mitigation actions and/or sites early in the SEZ regional mitigation planning process?

## **Options for Mitigation Fee Structures and Holders**

- 1. Are there any other funding structures or considerations that BLM should be aware of?
- 2. Do you agree that setting up a mitigation fee structure is an incentive that should only be provided for development in SEZs?
- 3. Is the cost-certainty associated with setting up a mitigation fee and the elimination of the hassle (i.e., costs) associated with permittee-responsible mitigation an incentive to go to SEZs?
- 4. Given the BLM's objectives for the Dry Lake SEZ, which funding structure or combination of funding structures do you think is most appropriate?
- 5. What fund holder characteristics are necessary or desired for the administration of mitigation funds for the Dry Lake SEZ?
- 6. What are the advantages/disadvantages of having a neutral 3<sup>rd</sup> party administering mitigation funds?